WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A charging control system placed on a communication network involving charging, the charging control system for controlling the charge, the charging control system comprising:

a detection section for detecting an access concentration degree to a server for providing a service for a user terminal through the communication network;

a determination section for determining a charging rate for communication to the server based on the access concentration degree to change the charging rate in response to the access concentration degree to the server; and

a charging rate information providing section for providing a requesting party using the user terminal with information on the charging rate through the communication network.

2. The charging control system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the charging rate information providing section includes a section for providing the information on the charging rate for the user terminal currently accessing the server.

3. The charging control system as claimed in claim 1 wherein a message from the user terminal to the server contains information indicating a maximum allowable charging rate,

the charging control system further comprising:

a relay control section for holding message relay between the user terminal and the server if the current charging rate determined exceeds the maximum allowable charging rate.

4. The charging control system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

a section for preparing charging rate statistical information indicating time-series variations in the charging rate based on a change history of the charging rate over a predetermined period of time in the past; and

a section for providing the charging rate statistical information for the requesting user terminal a request from the user terminal.

5. The charging control system as claimed in claim 4 wherein the charging rate statistical information is prepared for each of a plurality of predetermined servers,

the charging control system further comprising:

a charging rate statistical information retrieval section for retrieving the server that is accessed under an advantageous condition at present from among the plurality of servers, in response to an inquiry sent from the user terminal, based on the charging rate statistical information corresponding to each of the plurality of servers, to provide the retrieval result for the user terminal.

6. The charging control system as claimed in claim 5 wherein the inquiry condition sent from the user terminal to the charging rate statistical information retrieval section contains access frequency information indicating the server accessed by the user terminal and the access frequency; and

the charging rate statistical information retrieval section selects a plurality of servers to be retrieved from the plurality of predetermined servers based on the access frequency information and retrieves one of the plurality of servers that is accessed under the advantageous condition at present from among the plurality of servers selected.

7. The charging control system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

a section for detecting traffic on the route between the user terminal and each of a plurality of servers to be accessed by the user terminal; and

a section for determining one of the plurality of servers that can be accessed under the advantageous condition at present from among the plurality of servers based on the current charging rate corresponding to each of the plurality of servers and the detected traffic.

8. A terminal used as a user terminal in a communication

system in response to an access concentration degree to an accessed server for determining a charging rate concerning communication involving access to the server, the terminal comprising:

a receiver for receiving information concerning a current charging rate provided by the communication system; and

a display for displaying the information concerning the current charging rate.

9. The terminal as claimed in claim 8 further comprising a section for controlling continuing or stopping the communication involving an access to the server based on the current charging rate received and a preset value.

10. The terminal as claimed in claim 8 further comprising:

a section for receiving charging rate statistical information indicating time-series change in the charging rate concerning each of a plurality of servers to be accessed from the communication system; and

a retrieval section for retrieving one of the plurality of servers that is accessed under an advantageous condition at present from among the plurality of servers based on the charging rate statistical information corresponding to each of the plurality of servers.

11. The terminal as claimed in claim 10 further comprising a section for receiving traffic information concerning each route between each of a plurality of servers to be accessed and the terminal from the communication system,

wherein the retrieval section retrieves one of the plurality of servers that is accessed under the advantageous condition at present from among the plurality of servers based on the charging rate statistical information corresponding to each of the plurality of servers and the traffic information.

12. A charging control system placed on a communication network involving charging, the charging control system for controlling the charge, the charging control system comprising:

a detector which detects an access concentration degree to a server for providing a service for a user terminal through the communication network;

a determination section which determines a charging rate for communication to the server based on the access concentration degree to change the charging rate in response to the access concentration degree to the server; and

a charging rate information providing section which provides a requesting party using the user terminal with information on the charging rate through the communication network.